## AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

**On page 15, please replace the section after BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS with the following amended section:**

Fig. 1 graphically illustrates functions k' [N/(N+S)] and g' [N/(N+S)] used in echo and noise reduction.

Fig. 2 ~~is~~ illustrates a functional overview of echo correction consistent with the present invention.

Fig. 3 illustrates a functional overview of echo and noise correction consistent with the present invention.

Fig. 4 illustrates a functional overview of echo correction with a speech pause detector that is consistent with the present invention.

**On page 15, please replace the second full paragraph with the following amended paragraph:**

Fig. 2 shows an actual embodiment consistent with the invention. A measuring and/or estimating section 2 continuously measures the power value of a noise level N in a currently used telecommunications channel 1. The echo canceller 5 sets continuously and automatically a degree of reduction of the echo signals measured on echo detector 3 as represented by function d. The reduction of the echo signals is in dependence on the noise level N of the telecommunications channel 1. The dependence is based on a predefined function h(N) in function section 4. Fig. 4 illustrates an embodiment of an echo correction system that has a speech pause detector 7 for estimating the noise level. Fig. 3 shows an embodiment of the

invention where the noise reduction and the echo reduction are controlled separately by function d in function section 5 and function g in function section 6, respectively. Fig. 1 illustrates an example for the function k' [N/(N+S)] and an example for the function g'[N/(N+S)]. Examples of noise and echo dampening using these functions are given below.